REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

These Remarks are responsive to the Office Action mailed February 23, 2006. Claims 12, 15-20, 22, 23, 27 and 28 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 1-11, 13, 14, 21 and 24-26 are canceled (with claims 6, 8, 13, 14 and 21 being previously canceled) without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter set forth therein.

A. THE ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Office Action indicates that claims 12, 15-20, 22, 23, 27 and 28 are allowed.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for such indication of allowability. Such claims are presented by this Amendment.

B. THE REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5, 7, 9-11, and 24-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 and asserts that the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Applicant traverses such assertions for the reasons set forth in the prior December 22, 2005 Response. However, in order to expedite prosecution of the present patent application, such claims are canceled.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejections as set forth in the Office Action is obviated.

C. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

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Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that a personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

No fees are believed to be in connection with the filing of this Amendment. If it is determined that fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 23, 2006

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